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**ORDERS
AND
CONSTITVTIONS.**

Partly collected out of his Maiesties

Letters Patents, and partly ordained vpon

mature deliberation, by the **TREASVROR,**

COVNSEIL and **COMPANIE** of

VIRGINIA, for the better gouer-

ning of the Actions and affaires of

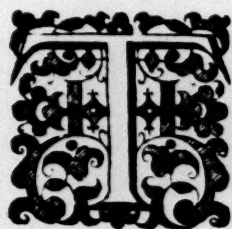
the said **COMPANIE** here in

England residing. *Anno*

1619. and 1620.

Courts.

I.



HERE are foure great generall
Courts, commonly called Quarter
Courts, appointed to be held by
the *Treasurer, Counsell,* and *Compa-*
nie of *Virginia*, vpon the foure last
Wednesdaies saue one of euery
Tearme : which onely haue and
shall haue power to choose Counseilours and Officers,
as well for the *Companie* here, as also for the *Colonie*

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and *Planters* in *Virginia*: to make Lawes and ordinances: to distribute and dispose of the Lands in *Virginia*: and to settle matter of Trade for the behoofe of the *Companie* and *Colonie*.

II.

Every Munday before a Quarter-Court, shall be held a Court to prepare all kinde of businesse referred to the power of the Quarter Court to determine.

III.

Every Wednesday fortnight, reckoning from the great Courts, shall also be held an ordinary Court for this Company, for dispatch of ordinary and extraordinary businesse. And it is not to be counted a perfect Court, vnlesse there be fve of the *Counsell* there (the *Treasuror* or *Deputie* being one) and fteene of the Generality.

IV.

IT shall be in the power of the *Treasuror*, or the *Deputie* in his absence, vpon extraordinary cause to call an extraordinary Court.

V.

IT shall not be in the power of any other then a Quarter Court, to make any contract whereby to binde the Company for any continuance of yeares. In which case it shall be proposed also in the *Preparative* Court next preceding.

Publique

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V I.

PVblique businesse shall have the precedence in the Courts before priuate, vnlesse there be extraordinary important cause to the contrary.

V II.

IF any thing ordered in an ordinary or lesser Court, be afterward reuersed in one of the great and generall Courts: It shall be from thence forward as though it had neuer beene so ordered.

V III.

ALL Courts shall begin at two of the clocke in the afternoone, and dissolue at the rising of the *Treasurer*, or of the *Deputie* in his absence.

I X.

Nothing shall be put to the question after sixe of the Clocke in the after-noone.

X.

IN regard of the great businesse for *Virginia* yearely encreasing, It shall be in the power of the *Treasurer*, (if hee see it so necessary) to assemble the Quarter Courts both in the fore-noones and after-noones of the dayes appointed for them.

X I.

THe *Companie* shall be summoned to the Quarter Courts, and Courts extraordinary, by the Offi-

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cer : But of the ordinary Courts themselves shall take notice. And the Secretary shall keepe a booke of the proceedings of the Courts : who with the Booke-keeper, Husbands, and Bedles, shall at all Courts giue diligent attendance.

XII.

IT shall be lawfull at a generall Court, and with consent thereof, to dispencc with all meetings in long Vacations, or in such part of them as may be spared ; valesse some extraordinary matter befall, in which case may be called extraordinary Courts.

XIII.

THE *Treasurer* and *Company*, being a Body and Commonaltie perpetuall, shall haue one faire and common Seale, to be kept by the *Treasurer*; and not to be affixed to any Grants or Instruments whatsoever, otherwhere then in publique Courts, or by warrant from thence.

XIV.

THE *Treasurer* and the *Counsell*, or the *Court*, haue power to admit any into this Society.

Elections.

XV.

AT the great and generall Court, commonly called the Quarter Court, in Easter Terme, all Offices of

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of this Company (excepting the *Counscil*) shall be voide : And the Court shall proceede to an election of new Officers, in manner following.

XVI.

THE *Treasurer* in the beginning of the Court, at the giuing vp of his Office, shall declare by word or writing the present estate of the *Colonie* and Planters in *Virginia*. And deliuer into the Court a Booke of his accounts for the yeere past, examined and approued vnder the Auditors hands : Declaring withall the present estate of the Cath.

XVII.

AFTER the choise of a *Treasurer*, a *Deputie* shall be chosen ; then the *Auditors*, and *Comitties* ; and lastly the *Secretarie*, *Booke-keeper*, *Husband*, and *Bedle*.

XVIII.

AT the choise of each Officer, the persons nominated for the election, shall withdraw themselves till the party chosen be publique'y so pronounced. And generally no man shall be present in the Court, whilst himselfe or his matter passeth the iudgement of the Court.

XIX.

IN regard of the weighty and manifold businesse of this *Company*, which is also like daily to encrease :

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No man shall be chosen *Treasuror* of the Company of *Virginia*, who at the time of his election is *Gouvernor* of any other Company ; but vpon condition that before the next *Quarter Court* hee effectually religne that other *Gouernement* : except it seeme good for the behalfe of both Companies, that the same man be also *Gouernour* of the *Somer Islands* Company.

XX.

IT is for weighty reasons thought very expedient, that no man continue in the place of *Treasuror* or *Deputie*, about three yeares at once.

XXI.

FOR the auoiding of diuers inconueniences, It is thought fit, that all elections of principall Officers in or for *Virginia*, as also of the *Treasuror* and *Deputie* here, be performed by a Balloting box, as in some other Companies.

XXII.

EVERY Officer as he is chosen, shall openly in Court take his oath : or if he be absent, at the next Court he commeth to.

XXIII.

THE *Treasuror*, *Deputie*, *Auditors*, and *Comities*, hauing no certaine allowance for their cares and labours : the reward of these former Officers according to their deserts, is referred to the pleasure of the Court wherein new Officers are chosen.

Treasuror.

Treasuror.

XXIV.

THe *Treasurors* duetic is to keepe the ordinary Courts of *Virginia*: and vpon cause extraordinary, to call Courts extraordinarily. And in all Courts, and other meetings, hee is to haue a casting voyce.

XXV.

HE is to moderate the Courts in qualitie of a *President*: And to cause grauity, decency, and good order to be obserued: And for breach thereof, after a graue admonition, first giuen, and not preuailing; to proceede to reformation by the iudgement of the Court.

XXVL

HE is to propound and put all things to the question which the Court requires, vnder paine of being immediately put from his Office, if he refuse. In which case the *Deputie* shall doe it, vnder the like paine. And if he refuse, then any of the *Counsell* there present.

XXVII.

WHereas the *Treasuror* is to put to the question all things which the Court requires: It is explained

explained to be intended of such things as are not contrary to his Maiesties *Letters Patents* or Instructions, nor to the standing Lawes and Orders of the Company.

XXVIII.

HE is to haue care that the extraordinary *Comissies* appointed by the Courts to seuerall businesse, doe prosecute the same; and giue seasonable account of their doings to the Court.

XXIX.

HE is also to haue an especiall care, that no *Grants* or *Patents* doe passe from the *Company*, but vpon examination thereof by a select *Comissie*, who are exactly to obserue the Orders made concerning them. And to this end, with diuers others, he is to haue a vigilant eye on the Companies and Counseils Seales, that they be not wronged by abusing of them.

XXX.

THe *Treasurer*, vpon receipt of publique Letters from or concerning *Virginia*, shall assemble at least foure of the *Counseil* to impart them to them; and by their assents shall cause them to be read in Court, vnlesse there be some cause of secrecie: In which case he shall communicate them with the *Counseil* onely. In like sort the publique Letters and Instructions to be sent to the *Gouernour*, *Counseil*, or People in *Virginia*, or otherwise concerning them, hee shall cause to be publicly read and approved by the *Court*, or *Counseil*,

seil, as the case shall require. And neither he, nor any other, shall of his owne head or authoritie, write or send any directions, swaruing from such as the Court or *Counseil* shall giue, vpon paine to be disfranchized.

XXXI.

THe *Treasurer* shall assemble the *Counseil* vpon all weightie occasions requiring serious denberation: And that haue care with them, that the Lords of his Majesties priuie *Counseil* be acquainted with all matters of extraordinary and greatest importance concerning the *State*.

XXXII.

HE is to doe his best that fit Counsaillors be chosen: And being chosen, is to haue care that they take their oathes.

XXXIII.

THe *Treasurer* is to haue care also, that the general *Comitties* keepe their Courts with the *Deputie*, vpon all occasions of bulinesse.

XXXIV.

HE is to doe his best that fit men be chosen also to that place: And that they which are chosen, be sworne.

XXXV.

THe *Treasurer* at his pleasure shall sit in any Assembly of *Comitties*, ordinary, or extraordinary, vnlesse it concerne himselfe.

XXXVI.

THe *Treasurer* shall stand charged with the publique *Treasure* of the Company. And is to haue care that it be duely got in : And not issued out, but by lawfull warrant, and to the *Companies* vse.

XXXVII.

A Lawfull warrant for charges of the present yeare, is that which is signed by the *Deputie* and foure of the *Comisties* : And for former charges or Debts ; that which is signed by three of the *Auditors*, whereof one to be of the *Quorum*. And vnderneath, or vpon the backes of euery Warrant, an Acquittance shall be taken for the receipt vnder the parties hand.

XXXVIII.

THe *Treasurer* is also to yeelde vp a true and perfect account of the generall Cash at the end of his yeare : And to bring it in a fortnight before to the *Auditors*, to be examined. And at all times, being requested by the *Auditors*, to shew in what case the Cash doth stand.

XXXIX.

IF any complaint or suspition growe concerning the Account, there shall be a review made by twelue chosen by the Court. And the account being accepted and approved by the Court ; the *Treasurer* shall haue his *Quietus est* vnder the *Companies* Seale, at the Quarter Court in *Trinitie Terme* then next ensuing.

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XL.

THe standing wages of the Cashier shall be suspended: and his reward such as that Quarter Court in *Easter Term* shall appoint.

Deputie.

XLI.

FOR matter of the Courts, in the *Treasurers* absence, the *Deputie* shall performe his Office: and in his presence, be assisting to him.

XLII.

HEe shall ouersee the Secretary for entring the Orders of Courts. And shall giue instructions for the writing of Letters, as he shall be directed: and haue care that accordingly they be written.

XLIII.

THe *Deputie* shall also keepe the Courts of *Comitties*, vpon all occasions requisite. And in them shall haue a casting voyce.

XLIV.

HE shall suffer no Warrants to be made and signed for issuing out of money, but in the open Court of *Comitties*, after due examination of the cause: vnto all which Warrants his owne hand shall be first

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set; and after it, other foure hands or more of the *Comitties*. And the *Deputie* and *Comitties* shall not intermedle with disbursements for any other charges, then such as arise within the compasse of their owne yeare.

XLV.

VHere a Warrant is directed to the *Treasuror*, to pay any grosse Summe to the *Deputie*; to be issued out by him and the *Comitties* for the vse of the *Companie*: In that case it shall not be requisite that the *Deputies* hand be to the warrant, so it be to the receipt.

XLVI.

Generally he shall oversee all inferiour Officers, that they performe their duties.

Counseil.

XLVII.

THe names of his Maesties *Counseil* for *Virginia*, shall be publicquely read in every Quarter-Court in *Michelmass Term*: They requested by the *Treasuror* to attend the service, and warned to take their Oathes.

XLVIII.

IF there be defect in the number, or attendance of the *Counseil*; then addition shall be made: And that but onely of men of especiall worth and qualitie, and such as are likely to giue attendance to that service. They are

are to continue *Counseilers* during life : vnlesse they be displaced by a great and generall Court.

XLIX.

IN regard of the present great number of the *Counsell*, and to preſerue vnto them that reputation which is fit for their place and employment: None hereafter vnder the degree of a *Lord* or principall Magistrate, ſhall be choſen to be of his Maieſties Council for *Virginia*; but ſuch as by diligent attendance at the Courts and ſervice of *Virginia* for one yeare at leaſt before, haue approoued their ſufficiency and worth to the *Companie*.

L.

Seuē of the *Counſeil*, being aſſembled by order, without practiſe or purpoſe to exclude the reſt, ſhall be counted the *Counſeil*.

LI.

THe *Counſeil* are to aſſemble vpon all important occaſions, being requested by the *Treſurer*, or the *Deputie* in his abſence; and in defect of bothe, being delired by the Court: And without fauour or diſpleaſure, private or ſiniſter reſpect, to giue their faithfull aduiſe in all matters tending to the aduancement or benefit of the *Plantation*: and eſpecially touching the making of *Lawes* and Conſtitutions, for the better governing as well of the *Companie* here, as alſo of the *Colony* planted in *Virginia*. Wherein the policie and forme of *England* is to be followed as neere as may be.

L II.

THe *Counseil* shall haue an especiall regard, by pious constitutions, and by other good politike Lawes and Orders, to hold the people there, in the true religion and seruice of God : and in assured allegiance to his Maiestie and the Crowne of *England* : In due respect also to his Maiesties *Counseil* here, and to this *Company* of *Virginia* : And in Iustice, Peace, vniformitie, and amitie amongst themselues.

L III.

They shall also according to the first institution and profession of this *Companie*, aduise and deuise to the vtmost of their powers, the best meanes for the reclaiming of the *Barbarous Nations*; and bringing them to the true worship of God, ciuilitie of life, and vertue.

L IV.

ALL Instructions to the *Gouernour* and *Counseil*, and all other principall Officers in *Virginia*, shall proceede from the *Counseil*, and vnder their hands and Seale : which Seale shall be in the custodie of the *Treasurer*.

L V.

IF any principall Officer of the *Companie* here; or Magistrate, great Officer, or Counseilor in *Virginia*; shall by the fame of his misdeserts, or particular accusation, merit to be called in question of being remoued from
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his place, or otherwise reformed or censured : He shall be first conuicted and examined by the *Counsell*, before his cause be produced in publique Court. And in case of his absence, the like course shall be held for his businessse.

Auditors.

LVI.

THe *Auditors* shall be seauen : whereof two at the least of the *Counsell*, and three of them of the *Quorum*.

LVII.

THe *Auditors* shall haue care of the generall accounts : to examine the receipts and disbursements according to the Orders of the *Companie* : and in all cases of difficultie, or of breach of those Orders, they shall acquaint the *Treasurer* and the generall Court therewith : and from thence receiue resolution and direction.

LVIII.

They shall also cause to be reduced into a seuerall Booke, the whole receipts and disbursements of that yeare : and the same vnder foure of their hands at the least (whereof two to be of the *Quorum*) shall be presented by the *Treasurer* at the Quarter Court in *Easter Term*, at the giuing vp of his and their Office.

They

LIX.

They shall signe no warrants for the issuing of money, but onely for olde charges or debts; that is to say, due before that yeare of their Office: And that not otherwise, then after due examination of the matter had in their appointed meetings: vnto which warrant shall be first set the hand of one at the least of the *Quorum*, and then two other or more of the rest of the Auditors.

LX.

The *Auditors* shall also employ their best industry and care, for the recovery of the olde debts due to the *Company*: And their receipts shall transmit to the generall Cash.

LXI.

And touching the olde accounts now depending in Audite, that is to say from the beginning of the *Plantation* till the 30. day of Nouember, 1616. the *Auditors* shall proceede in the examining and reducing them to order, and to the finall auditing of them, with what expedition they well can. And shall from time to time acquaint the *Treasurer* and Court, with such impediments and difficulties as shall be incident.

LXII

In digesting of the olde accounts, the *Auditors* shall take especiall care, to cause the *Secretary* or *Bookkeeper*, in a seuerall Booke, to set downe particularly
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and exactly the names of all the Aduenturors, with their seuerall sums aduentured : as also what is paid, or yet remaining vnpaid : as well that right may be done to the Aduenturors, as also the debts preserued which are due to the Company. And this booke of the Aduenturors, shall be extended till the Quarter Court in *Easter Term*, 1619.

LXIII.

THe *Auditors* shall keepe their meetings, once at the least euery weeke in the *Term time* ; or oftner, if need require : and once euery moneth at least in the vacation times : to ouersee the accounts, and dispatch such other businesse as shall be committed to them.

LXIV.

They shall also haue the authoritie of the Court, to call before them such persons, as are indebted or accomptable to the Company.

LXV.

IN regard of the greatnesse of the businesse for the present : the *Auditors* are allowed an Officer to attend vpon them : who shall be salariated at the pleasure of the Court.

Comitties.

LXVI.

THe *Comitties* being to be sixteene; and to be yearly chosen; there shall be a yearelie alteration made
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of one fourth part at the least, to the end many be trained vp in the businesse.

LXVII.

THe *Comitties* office is, together with the *Deputie*, to perform the orders of Courts, for setting out Ships, and buying prouisions for *Virginia*. Wherein especiall care is to be had, that neither the *Husband*, nor any one man alone, be entrusted with the making of those prouisions; but two at the least, to be appointed thereunto by the *Deputie* and *Comitties* in their Court: who shall also bring in their bills and accounts, to be examined and approued by the *Comitties*. The like care shall they haue at the returne of Ships from *Virginia*, for the goods belonging to the Companie, to be safely kept, and sould to the best aduantage, either in Court, or otherwise by the Courts direction. The accounts of all which, shall be transmitted to the *Auditors*: and the money remaining, returned to the Cash. The *Deputie* and *Comitties* shall also haue care of the *Inuoyces* to be made for the prouisions sent to *Virginia*: and of the Certificats of the receipt to be thence returned: As likewise of the *Inuoyces* of the goods sent from *Virginia*. All which shall be registred fairely in a booke.

LXVIII.

THe *Comitties* shall diligently keepe their Courts, whensoever occasion of businesse shall require. They shall be summoned by order from the *Treasurer*, or *Deputie*. And it shall not be counted a Court of *Comitties*,

Comitties, vnlesse the *Treasurer* or *Deputie* with five *Comitties* be present. The *Secretary* of the *Company* shall keepe a booke alio of their proceedings.

Secretary.

LXIX.

THe *Secretary* shall attend the *Treasurer*, and *Deputie*, in such seruice of the *Company* as wherein they shall haue cause to vse him. And besides the generall Courts, he shall of duety attend the Courts of *Comitties*; and keepe senerall bookes of their proceedings. The *Counsell*, *Auditors*, and *Comitties* extraordinary, he shall then also attend, when and so often as he shall be thereunto required.

LXX.

HE shall be bound by oath to keepe secret all matters of secrecy: And not to discouer the proceedings of the *Counsell*, and *Comitties* extraordinary, till such time as themselves shall publish the same.

LXXI.

THe *Secretary*, vpon reference of any businesse from the Court to a select *Comittee*; shall giue a note to the Messenger, containing the businesse, time, & place.

LXXII.

His office is also to be a Remembrancer to the generall Courts, and to the Courts of *Comitties*; for

the prosecuting and performing of matters formerly ordered : As also touching motions formerly made, and referred to speciall *Comitties*, or other farther consideration.

LXXIII.

IF at any time a generall Court shall order any money to be issued out of the Cash ; the *Secretarie* vnder his hand shall deliuer a Copie thereof to the *Auditors*, if it be of old Debts ; and if otherwise, then to the *Deputie* and *Comitties* : who respectiuely shall vnder that Order make their warrant for the payment of that money : vnlesse they finde the Court, by wrong information, to haue beene abused and deceived in that Order ; whereof at the next Court they shall giue aduertisement.

LXXIV.

THe *Secretaries* Office is to keepe the Bookes of the *Companie*, and fairely and orderly to enter in them the particulars here-vnder expressed, and in such manner as he shall be directed by the *Treasurer*, *Deputie*, or *Auditors*. First, a Booke containing the Copies of the *Kings Letters Patents* to the *Companie* : Also of all Letters, Orders, Directions, and other writings, from his Maiestie, the Lords of the *Counsell*, and other great Officers, concerning the *Companie*, or the affaires of *Virginia* ; together with the answers made vnto them.

LXXV.

A Second Booke shall be kept of all the Lawes and standing Orders established hence forward in the Quarter.

Quarter-Courts, and beginning with this day; as well such as concerne the Gouvernement of the *Companie* and businesse here; as also the Government of the *Colonie* and affaires in *Virginia*.

LXXVI.

IN a third Booke shall be registred all the Patents, Charters, and Indentures of validitie, heretofore granted, or that hereafter shal be granted, by the *Treasurer* and *Companie*: all instructions from the *Councell*: all publique Letters written to *Virginia*, or from thence receiued.

LXXVII.

A Fourth Booke shall be of the Acts of the generall Courts, beginning with a new Booke at the last Quarter-Court.

LXXVIII.

A Fift Booke shall be of the Acts of the *Comitties*, beginning from the same Court. In which Booke shall be registred all Inuoyces of the provisions sent to *Virginia* from the *Companie*; and the Certificats of the receipts to be thence returned: As likewise the Inuoyces of the Goods sent from *Virginia*; with the Husbands certificat of the receipt or defect.

LXXIX.

IN a sixt booke, at the one end, shall be registred the names of all the Aduenturors here by money; or otherwise by service, for which shares of Land in *Vir-*

ginia have beene given by the *Companie* in their Quarter-Courts; together with the number of Shares to each person belonging. Where shall also be entred in a place by it selfe, the lawfull Transports of Shares from one to another. Here shall also be entred, the names of his Maesties *Counsell* for *Virginia*. At the other end of the same Booke, shall be registred the names of all the *Planters* in *Virginia*, as well for the publike, as vpon priuate *Plantations*: which is to be done distinctly for each *Plantation* by it selfe. And this is to be done vpon the Certificates hereafter returned from the *Gouernour* and *Counsell* in *Virginia*: And from the Heads and Bodies of particular *Plantations*, according to the tenor and effect of the Grants made vnto them, and other Lawes and Orders made by the *Companie*. All which shall be first published and allowed in a generall Court: and not registred in this Booke, but by direction from thence.

LXXX.

THe *Secretarie* shall also keepe safe in the *Companies* Chest of euidences, the originals of all the *Letters Patents*, and other writings afore mentioned: All the *Bookes* also afore said: All the *Treasurers* *Bookes* of their yearely accounts: The *Husbands* *Bookes* of accounts of euery voyage to *Virginia*: and all other accounts perfected and approued by the *Auditors*. In the same Chest shall be kept all Charter Parties, as well cancelled as vncancelled: All Bonds made to the *Companie*, or for their vse: And all Bonds of the *Companies* discharged and cancelled: And all other writings

tings and muniments whatsoever belonging to the *Companie*. And the *Secretarie* shall deliver out none of the *Companies* writings, but by direction from the *Treasurer*, *Counsell*, or Court: taking a note of the parties hand for the true restoring of them. And in convenient time he shall make Calenders of all the fore-said writings.

LXXXI.

THe *Secretaries* Salarie shall be twenty pounds *per annum*: and of his paines extraordinary, the Court shall take consideration.

Booke Keeper.

LXXXII.

THe *Booke keeper*, so long as he shall see me necessarie, shall be wholly directed and ordered by the *Treasurer*, and *Auditors*: And shall receive his *Salarie* from the Quarter Courts, as the *Auditors* shall report of his paines and deserts.

LXXXIII.

THe *Booke keeper*, vpon conference with the *Secretarie* and the *Husband*, and they two in his defect, shall in every Quarter Court present openly to the *Treasurer*, a true note of the Debts, both owing by the *Companie*, and ought vnto them: together with the ground from whence they haue risen: that the Court
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may take order for discharge of the one, and recovery of the other.

Husband.

LXXXIV.

THe *Husband* is to be ordered by the *Treasurer*, *Deputie*, and *Comitties*; and to keepe his accounts in exact and iustificable manner: and to bring them from time to time to the *Deputie* and *Comitties*, to be first examined there, and approued vnder their hands; and then to be presented to the *Auditors*.

LXXXV.

HE shall at the end of euery voyage set out by the *Companie*, make a seuerall Booke of the charges of that voyage; to be presented by him to the *Auditors*; and by them to the Court.

LXXXVI.

THe *Husband* shall also (being required by the Court) be assisting to other *Aduenturers* vpon particular *Plantations*, in making their provisions, and setting out their Ships. His wages shall be fortie pounds *per annum*.

Bedel.

LXXXVII.

THe *Bedel* or Messenger is to be at command of the *Treasurer*, *Deputie*, and Courts. He is to warne all Quarter-Courts, and Courts extraordinary: all meetings of the *Counsaile*, *Generall Comities*, and Select *Comitties*. His wages, forty pound *per annum*.

Generalitie.

Generalitie.

LXXXVIII.

THe particular Members of the *Companie*, shall be subiect to the generall Courts, in matters concerning the *Companie* or *Plantation*. If any man finde himselte agrieved by a lesser or ordinary Court, he may appeale to a great and Quarter-Court, where the matter shall be heard and finally ordered. If any man refuse to obey both the one Court and other, he shall be disfranchized.

LXXXIX.

EVery man speaking in Court, shall addresse his speech to the *Treasurer*, or *Deputie* in his absence, as representing the Court: And all priuate speeches, or directed to particular persons, shall be forborne.

XC.

NO man in one Court shall speake aboue thrise to one matter: saue the *Treasurer* and the *Deputie*, being to moderate the businesse.

XCI.

NO man with his speech shall interrupt the speech of another, before he haue finished: Except the *Treasurer*, or in his absence the *Deputie*, (with approbation of the Court) see cause to put any to silence, for impertinency, or other vnseemely speaking.

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If

XCII.

IF any man be found by *linifter* course, to practise his owne aduantage, to the damnifying of the publike: or be found with the *Companies* Mony or Goods in his hands; and refuse to deliuer the same being lawtully thereunto required: If being summoned to the Court, he refuse to appeare; or appearing, performe not the Order of the Court; he shall be both disfranchized, and farther proceeded against, as an vnworthy Member, and wrong-doer to the *Companie*.

XCIII.

IF any man out of euill minde, practise to raise faction or dissention in the *Companie*: he shall for the first time, be admonished by the Court or *Counsell*; and at the second, disfranchized.

XCIV.

VVHosoever shall attempt by priuate solicitation to packe the Court to any vniust or vnlawfull end; shall vpon complaint, be conuented before the *Counsell*; and being conuicted, shall be disfranchized.

XCV.

IF any man be found, through corrupt reward, to make a Motion in the Court, tending to the publique hurt, or to the priuate wrong of another; he shall be forthwith disfranchized.

No

XCVI.

NO man shall presume to intercept Letters, written by, or to, the *Counseil*, or *Companie*: or to spread false rumors, vpon sinister intent, to the wrong of the *Counseil*, *Companie*, or *Colonic*. The offender shall be disfranchized.

XCVII.

NO man shall traduce any Member of this *Companie* in any other Court, for any thing done or spoken in this Court. The offender for the first time, shall be admonished; for the second, suspended from the Court for one yeere; and the third time, disfranchized.

XCVIII.

TO auoyd the drawing of the *Companie* into Debt henceforward: It is ordered, that no particular man make or propound any new proiect of charge to the *Companie*, but he withall offer good meanes how to defray that charge, and to vphold his proiect; in such sort as the *Companie* neuer be drawne againe into any farther debt. And the breakers of this Order, shall be excluded from the generall Courts, and from hauing voyce, or bearing Office, for one yeare after.

XCIX.

IF any man moue for any charge to the *Companie*, by way of gift in what sort soeuer: It shall be first referred to a select *Comitie*: and if the charge fall out to be vnder thirtie pound, it may be ordered by the next Court; if aboue, it shall be reserued till the Quarter Court ensuing.

C.

IT shall not be lawfull for any *Adventurer*, to sell or transport his shares to another, otherwise then in open Court: And not before it doe appeare vnder three of the *Auditors* hands, that the partie transporting his shares stand cleere, and is not indebted to the *Companie*; or the partie to whom they are passed, doe pay the said Debr.

Officers in Virginia.

C I.

ALL principall Officers in *Virginia*, namely the *Governour*, *Lieutenant Governour*, *Admirall*, *Marshall*, chiefe *Iustice*, and *Treasurer*, shall be chosen here by ballating in a Quarter-Court.

C II.

THE *Counseil* established in *Virginia*, and all other Officers there referued to the choise of the *Companie* here, shall be chosen in a Quarter-Court by onely erection of hands; vnlesse the Court desire to haue it passe by ballating.

C III.

THE Commissions to all Officers there, shall be onely for three yeares in certaine, and afterwards during the *Companies* pleasure. Onely the *Governour* shall vpon no occasion hold that place aboue sixe yeares.

The

CIV.

THe *Companie* here shall not be charged with the maintenance of the Officers there: But they shall be maintained there, out of the publique Lands.

Lawes.

CV.

NO Lawes or standing Orders shall be made by the *Companie*, but in this manner. First, after the proposing of them in Court, they shall be referred to the examination of a select *Comittie*. The *Comitties* shall present their Labours to the view of the *Counseil*. The *Counseil* approving them, they shall be brought to the Court of preparation on the Munday before the Quarter Court, and there openly read. And lastly they shall passe the iudgement of the Quarter Court.

CVI.

THe Lawes and Orders thus made, shall be fairely registred by the *Secretary* in a parchment Booke: which he shall bring in euery Court, and lay on the table, that all men may peruse them that are so disposed.

CVII.

IN the Quarter Court in *Hillarie Term*, all Lawes and standing Orders concerning the *Companie* here, shall be publicly read in the beginning of the Court.

CVIII.

THe abrogating of a Law or Order, shall proceede by the same degrees, by which the making.

CIX.

All Orders heretofore made, repugnant or swaruing from these, shall be henceforth voyd.

Grants of Land.

CX.

All *Grants* of Lands and Liberties in *Virginia*, shall be passed by Indenture : the Counterpane whereof shall be sealed by the *Grantee*, and kept in the *Companies* Chest of Evidences. And the *Secretary* shall haue the engrossing of all such Indentures.

CXI.

NO *Patents* or Indentures of *Grants* of Lands in *Virginia*, shall be sealed, but being read and approoued in a Quarter Court : the same hauing been also first examined and allowed vnder the hands of a select *Comittie* for that purpose.

CXII.

NO libertie shall be granted, tending to the exempting of any man from the authoritie of the Governor of *Virginia*, or of the *Supream Counseils* or Courts there established ; in any case of Treason, Rebellion,

Rebellion, or Sedition : or vpon any dutie to be performed for the necessary defence of the Countreys or the preservation of the publique peace, and suppressing Tumults within the Land ; or for trials in matters of Iustice by way of appeale , or otherwise by lawfull Orders to be from hence deliuered : or in cases consented vnto, as well by a generall Assembly of the *Colonic* there, as by the *Companie* here in a Quarter-Court. And all Grants , former or future, swaruing from this Order, shall be so farre forth deemed vnlawfull and surreptitious : as being repugnant to the Limitations in his Maiesties *Letters Patents*.

CXIII.

IN all *Grants* of Lands, a fift of the Roiall Mines of Gould and Siluer shall be reserued to the *Companie* : as an other fift is alreadie reserued to the Crowne.

CXIV.

IN all *Patents* or Indentures of *Grants* of Lands, the *Grantee* shall couenant to employ their people in great part in Staple Commodities, as Corne, Wine, Silke, Silke grasse, Hempe, Flax, Pitch and Tar, Potashes and Sope-ashes, Iron, Clap-board, and other Materialls : and not wholly or chiefly about *Tobacco*, and *Sassafras*.

CXV.

ALL *Grants* of Land in *Virginia* to the old Aduenturers their Heires and Assignes, that is, to such as haue heretofore brought in their money to the
Treasurie

Treasurie for their severall shares, (being of twelue pound ten shillings the share) shall be of one hundred Acres the share vpon the first diuision ; and of as many more vpon a second diuision, when the Land of their first diuision shall be sufficiently peopled. And for euery person which they shall transport thither before *Midsummer* day one thousand sixe hundred twentie five, if he continue there three yeares, or dye in the meane time after he is shipped, it shall be to the Transporters, of fiftie acres the person vpon the first diuision, and fiftie more vpon a second diuision in like manner, without paying any Rent to the *Companie* for the one or the other. And in all such Grants, the names of the Aduenturors, and the severall number of each of their shares, shall be expressed. *Provided* alwayes, that if the said Aduenturors or any of them, doe not truly and effectually within one yeare next after the sealing of the said Grant, pay and discharge all such summes of money, wherein by subscription (or otherwise vpon notice thereof giuen from the *Auditors*.) they stand indebted to the *Companie*: Or if the said Aduenturors, or any of them, hauing not lawfull right, either by purchase from the *Companie*, or by assignement from some other former Aduenturor, within one yeare after the said Grant ; or by speciall gift of the *Companie* (vpon merit preceeding) in a full Quarter Court ; to so many shares as he or they pretend ; doe not within one yeare after the said Grant, satisfie and pay to the said *Treasurer* and *Companie* for euery share so wanting, after the rate of twelue pounds ten shillings the share : that then the said Grant, for so much

as concerneth the whole part, and all the Shares of the said person so behinde, and not satisfying as aforesaid, shall be vtterly voide.

CXVI.

ALL Grants of Land in *Virginia* to new Aduenturers, that is to say, to such as hereafter shall be free of the *Companie*, paying the *Companie* for their Shares before *Midsomer*, 1625. shall for their owne persons and shares be of like condition with the former to all intents and purposes. But for such other as shall at their charges be transported into *Virginia*, before the said *Midsomer*, 1625. in manner afore said; shall be reserved a yearly Rent of twelue pence for euery fiftie acres acrowing to them by vertue of such transportation; to be answered to the said *Treasurer* and *Companie*, and their Successors for euer, after the first seuen yeares of euery such *Grant*.

CXVII.

ALL Grants to all other persons not comprised in the two Orders last before set downe, that is to say, to such Planters as before *Midsomer* day, 1625. shall goe into *Virginia* with intent there to inhabit: if they continue there three yeares, or dye after they are shipped, there shall be grant made of fiftie acres for euery person vpon a first diuision, and as many more vpon a second diuision (the first being peopled) which Grant shall be made respectiue to such persons and their Heires, at whose charges the said persons going to inhabit in *Virginia* shall be transported; with
E reseruatiō

reſervation of twelue pence yearely Rent, as aforeſaid.

CXVIII.

IN all the foreſaid *Grants*, ſhall be inserted a Condition or *promiſe*, that the *Grantee* ſhall from time to time, make a true Certificat to the ſaid *Treaſurer, Counſeil, and Companie*, from the chiefe Officer or Officers of the places reſpectiueſy, of the number, names, ages, ſex, trades, and conditions of euery ſuch perſon ſo transported, or ſhipped, before the ſaid *Midſomer* day. 1625. to be entred by the *Secretarie* into a Register Booke for that purpoſe to be made.

CXIX.

FOR the preuenting of fraud, and dammage to the *Companie* in their Rents, by drawing new Aduenturers or Planters, vpon purchaſe of a few old Aduentures, into the immunitie of the old Aduenturers of not paying any Rent for the ſhares of fiftie acres, the perſon transported by them before the foreſaid day: it is ordered, that in all Indentures of *Grant* of Lands to old Aduenturers, being for fewer then fiftie ſhares of the old aduenture, the immunitie of not paying Rent for the ſhares obtained by transporting of perſons as aforeſaid, ſhall not be generall; but reſtrained to the proportion of foure perſons to euery ſhare of the old aduenture, transported before *Midſomer* day. 1625.

CXX.

ALL *Grants* of Land ſhall be made with equall fauours, and *Grants* of like Liberties and Immunities

nities as neere as may be, (except the differences of Rent about set downe:) to the end that all complaint of partialitie or vnindifferency may be prevented.

Trade.

CXXI.

IT shall be free for all his Maiesties Subiects, after the determination of the present Ioynt Stocke for the *Magazine*, to trade into *Virginia* with the *Colonie*; paying the duties set down in his Maiesties *Letters Patents*.

CXXII.

IF any Ioynt Stocke for a *Magazine*, being requested by the Court, refuse or forbear to send Corne, Cattle, or Munition, for the necessary reliefe and supply of the *Colonie* in *Virginia*: it shall be lawfull from that day forward for any person freely to trade to and with the *Colonie* in *Virginia*, carrying thither onely Cattle, Corne, and Munition, without paying any duties to the *Companie* for seven yeares next coming; any former restraint to the contrarie notwithstanding.

CXXIII.

IF either in the present Ioynt Stocke for the *Magazine*, or any other hereafter to be erected, the generall *Companie* out of their common Cash beare part as an Aduenturor: they shall ratably partake like profit,

and vndergoe like losse, with other Aduenturors. And any Order made to the contrary shall be voide.

CXXIV.

DVring the time that the common Cash beareth part as an Aduenturor in any loynt Stocke for the *Magazine*; the meetings of the Aduenturors shall be in the same place, and on the same dayes, that the Generall Courts are kept: and either before the beginning, or after the ending of the Court: vnlesse the Court vpon extraordinary cause appoint some other time.

College.

CXXV.

THe Quarter Court in euery *Trinitie Term*, shall appoint a choise *Comittie* of five or seuen, to continue for that yeare, to take into their care and charge the matter of the *College* to be erected in *Virginia* for the conuersion of *Infidels*: which *Comittie* shall take a course for the recouering of the mony that hath bene collected for that worke. And shall likewise consult how the same may be best imployed, for the beginning, pursuing, and perfecting of the same worke. And shall from time to time acquaint the generall Courts with their doings, from thence to receiue approbation and direction.

The

CXXVI.

THe *Treasurer* shall keepe a severall Cash and account of this money, to be presented to the *Auditors*, and from them to the Court. And he shall not issue any money out of this Cash, otherwise then by warrant vnder the greater part of these *Comitties* hands.

CXXVII.

THe *Auditors* shall forthwith peruse the account of this Cash; and if any money haue beene issued out thereof by order of Court, otherwise then for the proper end to which it was intended; it shall be restored out of the common Cash of the *Companie*.

Accounts.

CXXVIII.

NO *Auditors* extraordinary shall presume to intermedle with the auditing of any Account, wherein the body of the *Companie* is interressed, but being appointed in the face, and with the approbation of the Court.

CXXIX.

ALL *Accountants* whatsoever, and *Auditors* extraordinary, if the Court so require, shall haue an Oath ministred vnto them in the face of the Court; the one for true accounting, the other for true auditing.

CXXX.

NO Account shall be held cleared, nor Accountants discharged; till the Account, being approued vnder the *Auditors* hands, be presented to the Court: And there lye openly in Court, two Court dayes, to be viewed by any that are so disposed.

CXXXI.

IF exception be taken to any Account whatsoever, the Court shall proceede to a review, as in like case of the *Treasurer*. If no exception be taken in the two Court dayes; or vpon the reuiew returned, and the Account approued: the *Treasurer* then, or *Deputie* in his absence shall signe the Account in open Court: wherby the Accountants shall be clearly discharged.

CXXXII.

IF any Officer, or other Accountants, be slowe in bringing in their Accounts to the *Auditors*, ordinary, or extraordinary; Or within one moneth after their Account is perfected, doe not pay to the Cash the due summe remaining, vnlesse the Court see cause to giue longer time: the *Auditors* or *Treasurer* shall impart the same to the Court: that order be thence giuen for redresse thereof.

THese Orders hauing beene first framed and digested by a select *Committee*; and then presented to the *Counsell*, and by them approued; were afterwards publique ly read in the preparatory Court, held on Monday

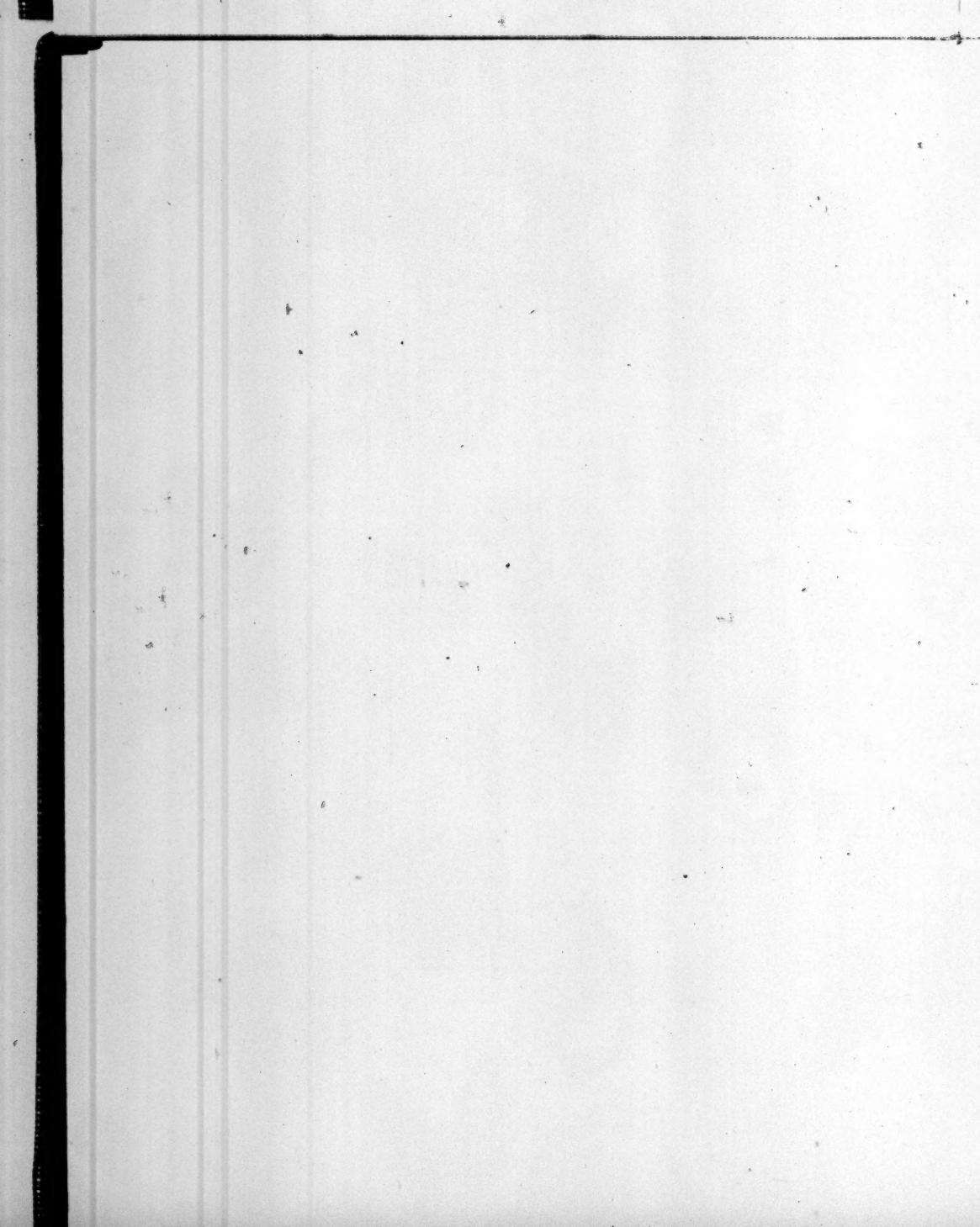
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day the 7. of Iune, 1619. And lastly were againe
read distinctly and deliberately in a great and generall
Quarter Court held on Wednesday, the 9. of Iune,
1619. where with a full & general consent, by erection
of hands, they were ratified and ordained to be the per-
petuall standing Orders of the *Companie of Virginia.*

Some few additions, and small alterations, haue
since beene made, in the Quarter Courts
in *Easter Term* and *Trinitie Term,*

1620.

FINIS.



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